28th November 1928]

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Have the Government consulted the Accountant-General or their legal advisers whether this allowance could be paid out of the grant appropriated for travelling allowance of members of committees of this Council ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of any legal disability, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if the Madras Committee has sent any further communications on this matter, after the Government's letter ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know, Sir, if the Chairman and Members of the Committee have given an ultimatum to the Government that unless they are given this extra allowance, they will non-co-operate with the Simon Commission ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know if the Government have considered the need for awarding some solatium to the Members for the displeasure they are incurring in the country ? "

The hon Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not admit the implication contained in the question."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know on what basis they have asked for special emoluments ? Is it to keep up their dignity as Members of the Committee or as compensation for the displeasure they are incurring in the country or for the great work they have undertaken ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It appears they referred to the Indian Statutory Committee and I suppose they were going on that analogy."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if the Government are aware or have any idea that the Committee has asked for this increase on the ground of an honorarium for the excellent approbation they have got on the floor of this House ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS : —" That is possible, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if a covering letter was received along with this resolution from the Secretary or the President of the Committee ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It was forwarded, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Simply forwarded, or were there any amplifications ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" No, Sir."

Government Press

Educational qualifications of Mr. Magimadas, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Government Press.

*758-A Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) (i) whether one J. Magimadas, a reader in the Government Press, was appointed to act as Assistant Superintendent on Rs. 250 ;

[28th November 1928

(ii) whether the claims of one P. Sankaran Nayar, head reader on Rs. 185, a graduate in arts, were overlooked and, if so, why; and

(b) what are the educational qualifications of Magimadas?

A.—(a) (i) Yes. Mr. Magimadas was appointed as temporary non-gazetted assistant on Rs. 250 per mensem from 7th May to 5th July 1928 to do the duties of Assistant Superintendent.

(ii) No.

(b) Mr. Magimadas has passed the Upper primary examination, Compositor's work (elementary) and Proof-reading (intermediate).

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member what is the charm of this Upper primary examination that it makes a reader possessing it get over the head reader who has already been in service for more than 19 years drawing Rs. 180, and whether this Upper primary examination is the same as the Lower secondary examination?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "He possesses all the qualifications necessary for the post, and the Superintendent when he considered the qualifications of all the persons that could be appointed to the post thought that he was the best person to be appointed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—"Is the hon. the Home Member aware of those qualifications that made the Superintendent prefer him to a man who was getting a higher salary than this man?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The appointment is in the hands of the Superintendent and he has used his discretion."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—"May I know, Sir, whether the man who ought to have got it was graduate and the head reader while the man promoted was in a lower grade and had absolutely no qualification?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is furnishing information."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—"May I know what pay this gentleman was receiving before he was appointed to this post?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I want notice, Sir."

Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU :—"Did the Superintendent consider that the qualification of the other man, i.e., the graduate, was inferior to that of Mr. Magimadas in promoting the latter over the head of the former?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— As I have said, the discretion is with the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—"May I know whether Upper primary examination equivalent to the I form?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is asking for an opinion."

Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar :—"May I know whether any appeal is allowed in this case?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I do not think so."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know if the Government have no powers to exercise their discretion in the matter of the powers vested in the Superintendent in these matters?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The Superintendent has the power of appointment and Government have no reason to doubt that he has misused it."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—"May I know whether the Superintendent had in his mind any of the communal Government Orders in promoting this man over the head of the other man?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"I do not know what exactly he had in his mind."

Alleged petition to Government against the Publication Assistant, Government Press.

*758-B Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a petition containing the undoings and undue influence of the Publication Assistant was presented to the Superintendent by Mr. Davis, late Deputy Superintendent, Government Press, in the year 1925;

(b) whether the said Mr. Davis asked the Superintendent to hold an enquiry into the allegations made in the petition, and whether the Superintendent refused; and

(c) whether the services of Mr. Davis were terminated through the evil and undue influence of the Publication Assistant and whether Mr. Davis addressed Government to that effect, enclosing a copy of the said petition; if so, what action was taken on the said petition and on the petition of Mr. Davis to Government?

A.—(a) Mr. Davis presented to the Superintendent an anonymous document in which allegations were made against the Publication Assistant.

(b) Yes.

(c) After Mr. Davis' employment had been terminated, he memorialized Government making allegations against the Publication Assistant and enclosing the anonymous document. The anonymous document was ignored by Government and Mr. Davis' memorial was dismissed.

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"In answer to clause (c) it is said that the memorial making allegations against the Publication Assistant was simply dismissed. Has the Government taken any action on that memorial or merely rejected it?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The memorial of Mr. Davis was considered and Government thought that there was no necessity to renew the agreement again."